



CITY OF PLATTSBURGH GREEN FLEET AND EQUIPMENT POLICY

1. REASON FOR POLICY

- a. Energy costs represent a significant amount of spending for the City of Plattsburgh government and the City of Plattsburgh desires to be a leader in environmental stewardship. Based on 2020 data the City of Plattsburgh spent \$71,867 on gasoline and \$56,283 on diesel fuel; for a total of \$128,150 in fuel costs.
- b. The City of Plattsburgh recognizes that energy use associated with the operation of its motor vehicle fleets does contribute to local air quality problems and results in greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change. While the operation and maintenance of the City vehicle fleet and equipment is essential to the ability to provide a wide range of services to the public, the fleet does represent an environmental and financial cost to the City of Plattsburgh.
- c. The City of Plattsburgh wishes to lead by example when it comes to climate action and contribute in reducing New York's State greenhouse gas emissions through reduction in emissions from its own vehicle fleet operations.
- d. The City of Plattsburgh's vehicle fleet consumes approximately 43,598 gallons of gasoline and 26,301 gallons of diesel annually (based on 2020 data), amounting to the equivalent of 655 metric tons of carbon dioxide.
- e. The City of Plattsburgh recognizes that improving the efficiency of its fleet could lead to a long-term monetary savings from reduced fuel and maintenance costs.
- f. The City of Plattsburgh has already purchased two Full Hybrid Electric Vehicles for the Municipal Lighting Department (MLD) in 2011 and has installed seven electric vehicle charging stations with plans for more underway.
- g. The City of Plattsburgh wishes to exercise its power as a participant in the marketplace to ensure that purchases and expenditures of public monies are made in a manner consistent with the policy of improving local air quality emissions and reducing State wide greenhouse gas emissions.
- h. The City of Plattsburgh wishes to establish a green City vehicle fleet and equipment policy, which would support the objectives of fuel-efficient, low-emission and low-cost fleet and equipment operations.

2. FLEET INVENTORY

- a. In order to establish a baseline of data so that the Green Fleet and Equipment Policy can be established, implemented, and monitored. The Department heads for the Department of Public Works (DPW), Municipal Lighting Department (MLD), Police, Fire, etc. with vehicle fleets shall develop an inventory and analysis of their fleet vehicles and equipment to include lawn mowers (riding and push varieties), leaf blowers, pole saws, chain saws, weed whackers, snow blowers etc. within each of their departments. This inventory shall be based on the current inventory in each department and shall include:



- i. Each vehicle shall be classified by model year, make, model, VIN, initial cost, drivetrain type (2-wheel drive or 4-wheel drive), and classification (light-duty, medium duty, heavy-duty);
- ii. Miles per gallon (or gallon equivalent) per vehicle, if known;
- iii. Type of fuel (or power source) used;
- iv. Year obtained and projected replacement date.
- v. Vehicle function (tasks associated with vehicle's use).
- vi. Equipment shall be listed by make, model, type of fuel used, year obtained and projected replacement date.

Once the Fleet and Equipment Inventory from each Department have been created then each Department Head will determine the following:

- i. Is the smallest, most efficient vehicle being used to carry out necessary tasks?
- ii. Can electrical vehicles or equipment adequately replace existing vehicles or equipment and accomplish substantially the same tasks?

3. GREEN FLEET AND EQUIPMENT POLICY

- a. It is the policy of the City of Plattsburgh:
 - i. To purchase, lease, or otherwise obtain the most energy-efficient and cost effective vehicles and equipment possible that meet the operational requirements of the City.
 - ii. To purchase vehicles that are appropriately sized for the purposes for which they are intended.
 - iii. To manage and operate its fleet in a manner that is energy efficient and minimizes emissions.
- b. To prioritize the development of further Green Fleet Charging Infrastructure at City Department parking areas and garages.

4. GOALS

- a. It is the goal of this policy to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from the City of Plattsburgh vehicle fleet to help New York State limit greenhouse gas emissions to 40% of 1990 levels by 2030 and 85% by 2050 through the combination of procurement, operations and technology.
- b. The 655 metric tons of carbon dioxide is based on 2020 gas and diesel fuel usage by the City vehicle fleet and equipment. This number will be the baseline for this policy. The goal is to reduce this number by 35% or better by 2030 and 70% or better by 2050. This number will be updated each year to show the City government progression in reducing



greenhouse gas emissions from its vehicle fleet and equipment. The fuel usage numbers will be obtained from the Annual Financial Report Update Document also known as the “AUD” which is prepared by the City Finance Department and is filed with the New York State Comptroller’s Office.

- c. It is also the goal of this policy to save the City money over time, as electric vehicles generally are cheaper to operate and maintain.

5. GREEN FLEET POLICY STRATEGIES

- a. In order to accomplish the goals above, the following policy strategies shall be implemented:
 - i. To support the growth of its Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure in the City will work to broaden its EV charging network at its various facilities over time, taking advantage of grant opportunities and incentives. Level 2 charging stations will be installed, as required, at the various City Departments that have or have ordered electric vehicles.
 - ii. Department heads, with the approval of the Mayor and City Council, shall prioritize the procurement of electric vehicles or equipment when such an option is available for the given application at a cost of purchase and operation not substantially higher compared to conventional (gasoline or diesel) equipment and where service levels are not negatively impacted. Planned electrical vehicle purchases for the coming year shall be included in each Department’s proposed budget for that year and submitted for review and approval.
 - iii. The City (Mayor and City Council) shall require City Departments to purchase Full Hybrid Electric Vehicle (FHEV), Plug in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV) or Electric Vehicles (EV) for Light-Duty Vehicles (sedans, vans, SUVs) as much as practical, unless the option is not available or is cost prohibitive.
 - iv. Department heads shall prioritize the procurement of Hybrid, FHEV, PHEV or EV models for Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicles when such an option is available for the given application at a cost of purchase and operation not substantially higher compared to conventional (gasoline or diesel) fuel vehicles and where service levels are not negatively impacted.
 - v. Department heads will review all vehicle and equipment procurement specifications and modify them as necessary to ensure that the specifications are written in a manner flexible enough to allow the purchase or lease of green vehicles or equipment.
 - vi. Department heads will review their fleet inventory to identify older vehicles or equipment that are used infrequently (or not at all), as well as those vehicles or equipment that are disproportionately inefficient, and schedule their elimination or replacement. Each Department shall make a time line based on the replacement of their current vehicle fleet or equipment with electrical vehicles or equipment.



6. APPLICABILITY

- a. New electrically powered emergency vehicles to include police vehicles, fire trucks, and City ambulances purchased under this policy must provide comparable performance, safety, and fuel availability during emergencies as conventionally powered emergency vehicles
- b. The additional cost of purchasing an electric or other lower emission vehicle or equipment that complies with this requirement of this policy will be reviewed against the reduction of fuel, maintenance requirement, and other costs incurred during the operating life of such vehicle by the Department Head.
- c. Wherever possible, grant funding, rebates and other incentives available to municipalities will be used to help pay for the purchase of vehicles or equipment that complies with this policy, or that supports the deployment of appropriate sustainable technologies across the City fleet.